

any question that this is germane.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Haberman, I'm going to rule that this amendment is germane. We will proceed with debate. I will recognize Senator Hall followed by Senators Hefner, Wehrbein, Abboud, Lamb, Lynch, Haberman, Nelson and Will. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, members, the amendment as offered by Senator Will and Senator Lynch is an interesting concept. It clearly is germane to the issue and I think the Chair ruled appropriately there. I guess for my purposes the argument here is that, against the proposal, would be that the issue as very honestly expressed by both Senator Will and Senator Lynch is one that was presented to the voters in Amendment 1 at last November's election. The...unlike Senator Lynch, I both opposed that issue on the floor and at the ballot in November. I have consistently opposed this measure for purposes of the fact that I firmly do not believe that it will stand constitutional muster. I don't think that the proposal that we currently have there, short of I guess stripping the Constitution of the Uniformity Clause will provide for the effect that proponents have tried to place into both the Constitution and then subsequently into statute, but be that as it may, the issue was presented to the voters. The voters adopted it with a majority of votes in the November election. We had the issue before us in at least three different proposals that deal with a long term solution. LB 404E as it's before us is nothing more than a stopgap and, yes, it does exactly what Senator Will said it does. It basically gives preferential treatment to agricultural land for valuation purposes for the tax year 1991. It freezes the valuation so that an increase of approximately 12 percent does not go into effect. Should we extend that freeze to homeowners? I would like to, frankly, but I cannot support the amendment. Voters did not have that issue before them when they vote in November. We have dealt with, I think very forthrightly, and I think both Senator Lynch in his capacity as a member of this body and Senator Will in his capacity as a staffer to this body, worked very hard on the legislation that ultimately was brought to the body in the form of both LB 84 and LB 1059 that did address this specific issue, not as well as we would have liked in the case of LB 84 but in the case of 1059 it still has to, I guess, be given time to continue to work toward that end. I think it has worked. I think it will continue to provide more relief to the homeowners as well as every other landowner. At this point in time I am